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Letter dated 7 November 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Please find attached herewith a statement of the Government of the Republic of Yemen on the United Nations road map for Yemen (see annex).

I would appreciate it if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Khaled H. **Alyemany**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 7 November 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]
7 November 2016

Statement of the Government of Yemen on the Road Map

- The Government of Yemen reiterates its firm and principled position that the crisis in Yemen must be resolved by peaceful means under the auspices of the United Nations and in accordance with the terms of reference, which are the Gulf Cooperation Council initiative and its implementing mechanism, the outcomes of the comprehensive National Dialogue Conference and the relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 2216 (2015). Accordingly, the Government of Yemen has, in good faith, negotiated with the coup perpetrators on several occasions in Biel, Geneva and Kuwait.

- All Security Council resolutions concerning Yemen have reflected the unanimous support of the Council for the legitimate Government of Yemen, because the Government is the partner of the United Nations and the 18 States that are overseeing the peaceful political transition process that began after the former President relinquished power in November 2011. In all of those resolutions, the Council urges all parties and Member States not to take any action that threatens the unity, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Yemen.

- Two years after their coup against the legitimate Government of Yemen, the Houthi militias and their ally, former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, continue their blatant aggression against all regions of Yemen, and continue to loot and impoverish the State. They have collectively punished the people of Tai'zz governorate by denying them access to urgently needed humanitarian aid relief; attacking civilians, hospitals, and educational centres, which they have turned into military barracks; and using children in the armed conflict. They continue to use Iranian-made rockets to target civilian and residential structures in the border regions of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and to target ships in international sea lanes in the Red Sea.

- The Government of Yemen emphasizes the urgent need to return to the negotiating table to complete the peace talks that lasted for more than 100 days in Kuwait, so as to reach a peace agreement in accordance with the steps set out in Security Council resolution 2216 (2015), culminating with the conclusion of political arrangements to complete the drafting of the constitution and putting it to a referendum, and then holding general elections.

- The Government of Yemen expresses its appreciation for the popular position taken by all political and social actors, elected local authorities and military and security commanders in all governorates. Their position is a clear mandate from the people that the leadership of the legitimate Government should continue on the path of peace and reject any attempts to deviate from the internationally recognized terms of reference.

- Accordingly, the Government of Yemen, by accepting the road map proposed by the Special Adviser, is affirming that it does not reject the efforts of the United Nations. Indeed, we continue to count on the Organization's efforts to revive the peace process, on which the Houthis and Ali Abdullah Saleh have turned their backs. In order for these efforts to be fruitful, it is imperative that they remain consistent with all United Nations resolutions and maintain the partnership between the legitimate Government, led by President Abdrabuh Mansour Hadi, and the United Nations, which are striving to revive the peace process and put an end to the coup. Accordingly, there must be no attempt to diminish the role of the presidency, because it is one the institutions that will ensure that this process is completed, concluding with the holding of general and presidential elections at the end of the transitional period.

- Acceptance of the road map will be contingent on making fundamental changes that are in line with United Nations resolutions. It will also require all those who are covered by the relevant Security Council resolutions and those who are impeding the settlement process to clarify their status and their role in the political process. The road map must also not overlook the many political, geographical, social and cultural tenets of the Yemeni people.